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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Fiftieth session
Agenda item 17

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMISSION ON PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION AND PROTECTION OF MINORITIES ON ITS FORTY-FIFTH SESSION

Australia, Belgium*, Bolivia*, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Denmark*, Finland, Greece*, Iceland*, Italy, Mexico, New Zealand, Nicaragua*, Norway*, Portugal*, Russian Federation and Sweden*: draft resolution

# A PERMANENT FORUM IN THE UNITED NATIONS FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

The Commission on Human Rights,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenants on Human Rights,

Recalling the recommendations pertaining to indigenous people included in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights, in particular the recommendation that the establishment of a permanent forum for indigenous people in the United Nations system be considered,

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* In accordance with rule 69, paragraph 3, of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

Recalling the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development to involve indigenous people and their communities in the United Nations programmes of environment and development as stated in article 22 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and in chapter 26 of Agenda 21,

Recalling also that the General Assembly, in its resolution 48/163 of 21 December 1993 on the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People requested the Commission on Human Rights, at its fiftieth session, to give priority consideration to the establishment of a permanent forum for indigenous people within the United Nations system,

Recognizing the importance of increased incorporation of the values, views and knowledge of indigenous people into relevant aspects of the programmes and activities of the United Nations system,

Taking into consideration the desirability of consulting indigenous organizations in the consideration of the establishment of a permanent forum,

Acknowledging the important role of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations in this respect,

1. Requests the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, to invite Governments and indigenous organizations to express their views pertaining to the possibility of establishing a permanent forum for indigenous people and to transmit to the Working Group on Indigenous Populations prior to its twelfth session contributions received, together with a technical note addressing institutional issues related thereto;

2. Requests the Working Group on Indigenous Populations, at its twelfth session, to give priority consideration to the possible establishment of a permanent forum for indigenous people and to submit its suggestions for alternatives, through the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-first session;

3. Decides to consider the question of a permanent forum at its fifty-first session.

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